

REMARKS AND RESPONSES

Claims 1, 7, 9 and 14 have been currently amended. Claims 1 and 3-18 remain pending in the present application. Support for the amendments is found in the specification and claims as filed. Accordingly, the amendments do not constitute the addition of the new matter. Reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1 and 3-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Hollenbeck (US 5,513,053) in view of Krohn (US 5,076,761).

Of rejected claims, only claims 1, 7, 9 and 14 are independent.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to include the novel feature “the control unit directly outputs an over voltage signal to stop an operation of the DC motor”.

Claims 7 and 14 also have been amended to include the novel feature “the output terminals of the MCU driver (or the driver IC) directly output an over voltage signal to stop driving the power switches and an operation of the DC motor”.

However, Hollenbeck in view of Krohn fails to disclose such novel features recited by amended claims 1, 7, 9 and 14. In particular, the Examiner has admitted that “Hollenbeck’s control unit does not stop driving the DC motor in response to the over voltage signal (but does stop driving the motor in response to an under voltage signal).” See Page 9, lines 12-15 of Office Action. Krohn also fails to disclose such novel features. The Examiner’s attention is invited to Fig. 1 and col. 3, lines 1-4 of Krohn. Krohn discloses that “over voltage” comes from 110V input AC and is monitored by the over-voltage monitoring circuit (130), but Krohn is silent about whether or not Motor control (90) output an over voltage signal.

In addition, the overvoltage protective device defined by amended claims 1, 7, 9 and 14 is in connection with a direct-current (DC) motor. However, the overvoltage protective device disclosed by Hollenbeck or Krohn is in connection with a power supply. That is another difference between the present invention and the reference Hollenbeck or Krohn.

Thus, Hollenbeck and Krohn, either alone or in combination, would not suggest or teach each and every feature of amended claims 1, 7, 9 and 14. Accordingly, the novel features of claims 1, 7, 9 and 14 produce new and unexpected results and hence are

unobvious and patentable over these references. Their dependants are also patentable. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

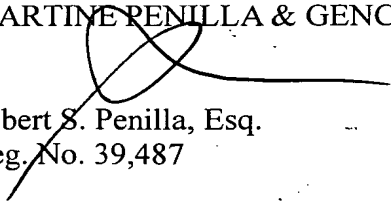
Conclusions

For all of the above reasons, applicants submit that the specification and claims are now in proper form, and that the claims define patentably over prior arts. Therefore applicants respectfully request issuance for this case at the Office Action's earliest convenience.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present amendment, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 749-6903. If any other fees are due in connection with filing this amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. JLINP171/TLC). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

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